

Dear Committee:

Please vote NO on S.B. 477 and H.B. 5397.

I offer that just as a knife or vehicle or baseball bat or any other inanimate instrument is useless, unless it is used by a person, a gun does not cause “violence” unless someone uses it as such, by pulling the trigger. Then it is a “crime of violence.” A gun is an inanimate utensil unless it is used by energy (i.e. person/people) to cause violence or harm to another. If someone lives in a neighborhood that is dangerous, they have the right under the Constitution to “...feel safe in the communities where they live” to have self-protection.

Many women have recently obtained a weapon to protect themselves, or even for hunting or sport such as clay pigeon target shooting (skeet, or trap). I think it is a waste of time and taxpayer money to spend on such frivolous entities as establishing a “data dashboard.” I do not believe it is “an urgent public health crisis that demands the state invest more to save lives.” This is just to get more useless information to keep track of citizens of Connecticut and say it is a public health menace. How is that going to “...save lives”? Defending oneself from trouble from another person will save a life of an innocent victim of crime against them. A gun is an instrument to use; it does not shoot by itself.

Please vote NO on H.B. No. 5397 and S.B. 477 and stop spending our taxpayer money on useless data that does not stop anything except maybe law abiding citizens by abusing their right to bear arms. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Marceau
Norwalk, CT